

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

MR. GLADSTONE CONFINED TO HIS BED SINCE SATURDAY.

The Bulgarian difficulty approaching settlement. Russian and Turkish business. France and China again at Loggerheads. Dr. Windthorst's opposition to Bismarck withdrawn.

LONDON, March 8.—Mr. Gladstone, it is announced, is suffering to-day from a severe cold. The announcement is coupled with the statement that the physicians do not look upon the premier's ailment as serious, and that he will recover in a few days. It has been ascertained by the press that Mr. Gladstone is confined to his room, and that he has spent all his time since Saturday in bed. The ministers who have been required by the exigencies of the state's business to call upon the premier during the last few days, have done so in his bedroom. He attends to his necessary correspondence by dictating from his couch.

TARDY HELP FOR IRELAND. LONDON, March 8.—Mr. John Morley, chief secretary for Ireland, replying to a dispatch from the Home Office, stated that Mr. Tuke had started for the islands on the western coast of Ireland, and that he had secured a quantity of seed potatoes. He added that the government would take other measures to relieve the distress, which he said was "terrible."

THE COMPLETE EXPLOSION. LONDON, March 8.—The boiler of the tug Riffman exploded in Cardiff harbor this morning. The vessel and crew, consisting of six persons, were blown to atoms. The cylinder of the engine struck the Italian ship, a quarter of a mile distant, and killed the pilot.

PARIS, March 8.—The *Gaulois* states that serious difficulties of opinion between France and China have arrested the progress of the negotiations for a settlement of the Tonquin frontier question. The publication of a commercial treaty between the two countries.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 8.—All the powers have given their assent to the Roumelian agreement as modified by Russia. The final agreement is now being completed. The clause relating to a military alliance between Turkey and Bulgaria has been eliminated, and that the title "Prince of Bulgaria" has been inserted. The agreement is being drafted and will soon be submitted to the emperor for his signature.

LONDON, March 8.—The delay in the signing of the Servia-Bulgarian treaty of peace is due to Bulgaria's objection to the clause which gives the emperor the right to appoint a suzerain's delegate and that the Bulgarian delegate shall not sit in the treaty.

BERLIN, March 8.—During the debate on the public worship estimates in the lower house of the Prussian diet this evening, the members of the Catholic party, declared that they would offer no opposition to the government estimates. He said he desired to declare his gratitude for the ecclesiastical bill, and for the features of the May laws, and did not wish to adversely influence the discussion in the upper house, hoping that there would result peace between the church and state.

CHILIAN CIVILIS. VALPARAISO, March 8 (via Valparaiso).—The president of the United States has been decorated with flags in honor of the occasion.

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QUITE A BLAZE.

Fire at Jersey City Injures Two Ocean-Going Steamers and Causes a Loss of \$100,000.

JERSEY CITY, March 8.—This morning's fire at Long Dock broke out at about 2:30 o'clock among a quantity of Jute stored upon the pier of the Monarch Steamship Company. It is thought to have been caused by spontaneous combustion. Finding it beyond their control, an alarm was sent out, which was quickly followed by a second alarm and general call, bringing the entire city fire department to the scene. The ferry boat *Susquehanna* was lying in one of the slips with steam up, and the dock hands got out a line of hose and did good work. The Erie Company's fire boats *Don Juan*, *Van Houten*, and *Buffalo*, the Pennsylvania railroad's steam tugs *Pennsylvania*, *Uclea*, *Uclea*, and *Young America*, and the Central railroad's tug *Raymond*, also responded to the alarm, and soon had streams upon the fire. Two steamships—the Egyptian Monarch and the *Lylian Monarch*—were in the dock, and the Egyptian Monarch was nearly loaded, and was to have sailed for London to-day. She was towed into mid-dock, and the fire was extinguished. The *Lylian Monarch*, which was also in the dock, was docked on Saturday, and was not so fortunate. The damage to the *Lylian Monarch* is estimated at \$100,000. The Egyptian Monarch, which was in the dock, was docked on Saturday, and was not so fortunate. The damage to the *Lylian Monarch* is estimated at \$100,000.

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KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

GRAND MASTER POWDERLY'S SENSIBLE AND TIMELY VIEWS.

Strikes Deploable and Only to be Resorted to When All Other Means Have Failed—Arbitration the Constant Aim of the Order.

PHILADELPHIA, March 8.—Grand Master Workman T. W. Powderly, the head of the Knights of Labor organization, who is in this city attending a meeting of the general executive board, said to-night to a reporter of the Associated Press that he had received no summons to St. Louis to settle the difficulties between the strikers and the Gould system of roads west. Mr. Powderly said that the strikers were now in the United States by assemblies of the Knights of Labor. "It is a coincidence merely," said he, "and there is no concerted action contemplated by the order, as has been suggested, the strikes being accidental, and I think, chiefly owing to the fact that this is just the beginning of the spring trade and the opening of a period of competition for the dry goods."

Mr. Powderly upon being asked whether he did not think that the increase in the number of strikes was due to the fact that the knowledge of an increasing number of the organizations of labor, said: "I doubt it, I think that I can speak for the strikers, and I think that the strikers are not to be blamed for the strikes. It is a coincidence merely, and there is no concerted action contemplated by the order, as has been suggested, the strikes being accidental, and I think, chiefly owing to the fact that this is just the beginning of the spring trade and the opening of a period of competition for the dry goods."

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THE NORFOLK NAVY YARD.

Commodore Truxtun's Reply to the Allegations Contained in the Boutelle Resolutions.

Secretary Whitney sent to the House yesterday, by way of reply to the Boutelle resolutions adopted Jan. 25, a letter from Commodore Truxtun, commandant of the Norfolk navy yard, making specific and categorical answer to each of the points in the resolution. Commodore Truxtun says:

In reply to your letter, transmitting to me the resolution of the House of Representatives, asking if certain allegations were true in reference to the administration of the Norfolk navy yard, which I am the commandant, I respectfully say: There never were any honorific inscriptions upon any cannon captured by the United States, and placed in this yard, as alleged by your resolution.

In fact, no such oblation has at any time taken place. The expense from the treasury of the United States for the erection of such inscriptions was never made. The original statement remained in fact as it was, and the inscriptions were never made. In fact, no such oblation has at any time taken place. The expense from the treasury of the United States for the erection of such inscriptions was never made. The original statement remained in fact as it was, and the inscriptions were never made.

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THE TWO NEW LOCAL RULERS.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND DELIGHTS THE DISTRICT DEMOCRACY.

A Couple of Good Commissioners Appointed—Who the Men Are—One a Successful Business Man, the Other an Expert Engineer.

The appointment of Samuel E. Wheatley to the District Commissionership, in place of James B. Edmonds, yesterday caused an agreeable surprise to the citizens of Washington, and everybody indorsed the appointment. The general expression of opinion was in effect that the President was making good on the Matthews appointment, and that he had succeeded very well.

The appointment of Mr. Wheatley first became known at the Senate just after the reading of the journal. It was given out simultaneously at the White House, and at the same time, the up-town business was talking about it, and the comment "It's a good appointment!" was general.

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